**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A method for producing a rubber master batch comprising a step of mixing a rubber solution with a slurry solution of a filler previously dispersed into a liquid, characterized in that a static mixer or a high shear mixer comprising a rotor and a stator portion and having a shear speed of not less than 2000/s is used in the mixing of the rubber solution and the slurry solution.

2. (currently amended): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 1 or 13, wherein the filler is at least one selected from the group consisting of carbon black, silica and an inorganic filler represented by the following formula (I):

$$nM_1 \cdot xSiO_y \cdot zH_2O \quad \cdots\cdots (I)$$

wherein M1 is at least one selected from the group consisting of a metal of aluminum, magnesium, titanium, calcium or zirconium, oxides and hydroxides of these metals, their hydrates, and carbonates of these metals, n is an integer of 1-5, x is an integer of 0-10, y is an integer of 2-5, and z is an integer of 0-10.

3. (currently amended): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 1 or 13, wherein the rubber solution is a water-based rubber latex.

4. (currently amended): A method for producing a rubber ~~mater~~ master batch according to claim 3, wherein the rubber latex is a natural rubber latex.

5. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 4, wherein an amide bond in the natural rubber latex is decomposed with a protease.

6. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 3, wherein the water-based rubber latex is mixed with the slurry solution, and the resulting mixture is coagulated to have a water content of 5-40 mass%, and the coagulated mass is dried while applying a mechanical shearing force.

7. (original): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 6, wherein the drying is performed by a screw-type continuous milling machine.

8. (currently amended): A rubber master batch produced by the method as claimed in ~~any one of~~ claims 1 or 13~~-7~~.

9. (original): A rubber composition comprising a rubber master batch as claimed in claim 8.

10. (previously presented): A tire comprising a rubber composition as claimed in claim 9.

11. (previously presented): A belt comprising a rubber composition as claimed in claim 9.

12. (new): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 1, wherein the rubber solution and the slurry solution are substantially simultaneously charged.

13. (new): A method for producing a rubber master batch comprising a step of mixing a rubber solution with a slurry solution of a filler previously dispersed into a liquid, characterized in that a static mixer is used in the mixing of the rubber solution and the slurry solution.

14. (new): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 13, which further comprises a step of coagulating the resulting mixture with using a coagulating agent after the step of mixing by the static mixer.

15. (new): A method for producing a rubber master batch according to claim 13, wherein the rubber solution and the slurry solution are substantially simultaneously charged.